Practitioner's Docket No.: 868 012

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Noriaki KATO, Hiroshi NAGANO, Kaori TANIKO and

Takahito JOMORI

Serial No.: 10/587,320

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May 10, 2007

Examiner:

Nissa M. Westerberg

Conf. No.:

4731

For:

PROPHYLACTIC OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR DIABETIC

MACULOPATHY

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Sir:

- I, Mara Lorenzi, a permanent resident of the United States of America, hereby declare and state:
- I have a doctor of medicine degree conferred to me by the University of Turin 1. Medical School in Italy in 1971. I have received the following licensures and certificates: Italian Licensure, ECFMC certificate, FLEX certificate, Specialization in Internal Medicine (Italy), California license registration (currently inactive), American Board of Clinical Pathology certificate, and Massachusetts License registration.
- 2. I have been employed by the Schepens Eye Research Institute, Harvard Medical School (20 Staniford St. Boston MA 02114) as Professor of Ophthalmology since 2004. I have had a total of 22 years of work and research experience in the areas of Diabetes and Ophthalmology. I had several major committee assignments at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) Medical School; Harvard Medical School; Dept. of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School; Harvard Affiliated Institution Schepens Eye Research Institute, UCSD Medical Center; and at NIH, JDRF, NIDDK Diabetic Complications Consortium.
- 3. I am a member of the American Diabetes Association (ADA), European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), American Association for the Advancement of Science, The Endocrine Society, American Federation for Medical Research, Massachusetts General Physicians Organization, Inc., and Societé Française de Microcirculation. I have been a member of several editorial boards, which were Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolism (1987-1997), the

Editorial Advisory Council, Journal of Endocrinological Investigation (1990-1996), Diabetes Metabolism Reviews (1993-1998), Diabetes/Metabolism Research and Reviews (1998-2004), Journal of Clinical Investigation (1998), and Diabetologia (2003-2005). I have had many awards and honors which were Montecatini Prize for Therapy (Italy) for study of the mechanisms of action and clinical use of antiandrogens (Doctoral Thesis)(1972), Scholarship from the Department of Education, Italian Government, for specialization in Endocrinology (1973-1975), Endowed position of Institute Scientist, Schepens Eye Research Institute (1987-present), Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship Award of the American Diabetes Association (1992-1995), Mary Jane Kugel Award of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (1994, 2003, 2006), Honor Lecture, 16th Congress of the Italian Diabetes Association (1996), First recipient of the Alessandro Beretta-Anguissola Prize of the University of Rome "La Sapienza" for scientific merits in Internal Medicine(2003), Listed in Guide to America's Top Physicians -Consumers' Research Council of America (2004- present), and First recipient of the Golden Palm from civic organizations in Bordighera, Italy, for "honoring the hometown in the world"(2008).

4. My publications, presentations, original articles, proceedings of meetings, reviews and book chapters, and abstracts, are as follows.

Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Rome, Italy

2001

2003

2004

2006

) Regional, I	National, and International Presentations and Contributions
Honor	, Plenary , and State-of-the Art Lectures
1980	Plenary presentation. California Society of Pathologists 33 rd Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA
1982	Honor lecture. Annual Meeting of the Italian Diabetes Association, Bari, Italy
1988	Plenary presentation. Schepens International Society, Paris, France
1989	Plenary presentation. 21 st Meeting of the Diabetic Pregnancy Study Group, Uppsala, Sweden
	Plenary presentation. Schepens International Society, Rome, Italy
1991	Plenary presentation. State-of-the-Art Symposium at Annual Meeting of the European Association for the
	Study of Diabetes, Dublin, Ireland
1992	Plenary presentation. Vitreo-Retinal Symposium VIII, Association pour la Recherche Sur les Maladies de
	la Rétine, Paris, France
1994	State-of-the-Art lecture at Symposium on Diabetes and Endothelial Cell Dysfunction, Kyoto, Japan
1995	International Guest Lecturer at the Annual Meeting of the European Diabetic Nephropathy Study Group,
	Heidelberg, Germany
1998	Plenary presentation. 8th Annual University Diabetes Symposium, Southern Illinois University School of
	Medicine, Springfield, IL
	Plenary presentation. Scandinavian Society for the Study of Diabetes, HelsingØr, Denmark.
	Plenary presentation. European Society for Microcirculation, Paris, France
2000	Plenary Lecture. The Jubilee Symposium on Diabetes, University of Rome and National Research Council,
	Rome, Italy

Keynote Speaker. Regional Congress of the Italian Diabetes Association; Genova, Italy

Plenary Lecture. 18th International Diabetes Federation Congress, Paris, France Honor Lecture. 700th Anniversary of The University of Rome "La Sapienza" Rome, Italy

Keynote Speaker. Symposium of the Regional Assembly of the Italian Diabetes Association, Turin, Italy

Honor Lecture. Symposium "Cellular and Molecular Biology in the Study of Diabetic Microangiopathy"

Keynote Speaker. Symposium "Prevention of Diabetic Complications". Istituto Superiore di Sanita, Rome,

	Italy.
2007	Keynote Lecture, 17 th Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes Eye Complications Study Group, Rome, Italy
	Plenary Lecture, XIII InterAssociation Congress AMD-SID (Association of Diabetes Physicians and Italian Society of Diabetes), Milan, Italy
	Honor Lecture, Annual Scientific Meeting of the Italian Society of Diabetes, Olbia, Sardinia, Italy Keynote Speaker, 7 th Forum Diabetes Youth, Italian Society of Pediatric Diabetes and Novo Nordisk, Genova, Italy
2009	Honor Lecture, Joint Meeting of the Association Young Diabetic Patients and University of Milano, Milan, Italy
	Lectures, Seminars, Grand Rounds (selected list)
1980	Seminar. University of California San Francisco Department of Laboratory Medicine, San Francisco, CA
1984	Lecture. Workshop of the 31st Postgraduate Course of the American Diabetes Association, Los Angeles, CA
1985	Lecture. 4 th European Symposium on Metabolism, Padova, Italy
1986	Seminar. Medical Societies of Imperia and Genova, Italy
1988	Seminar. Eye Research Institute, Boston, MA
1900	Lecture. Istituto Scientifico di Medicina Interna, University of Genova, Italy Lecture. Symposium on Cellular Aspects of the Etiology of Diabetic Vascular Complications, 13 th
	International Diabetes Federation Congress, Sidney, Australia
	Lecture. Symposium on Endothelial Cell Function in Diabetic Microangiopathy, Melbourne, Australia
1989	Seminar. The Rockefeller University, New York, NY
	Lecture. International Symposium on Circulating Regulatory Factors and Neuroendocrine Function,
	Bratislava, Czechoslovakia
1000	Lecture. 15 th World Congress of the International Union of Angiology, Rome, Italy
1990	Lecture. International Symposium on Diabetic Complications: Epidemiology and Pathogenetic Mechanisms, Lisbon, Portugal
	Endocrine Grand Rounds, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH
	Pathology Grand Rounds, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH
	Lecture. VI Vitreo-Retinal Symposium, Fontainebleau, France Lecture. 25 th International Research Symposium of the American Diabetes Association, Woods Hole, MA
	Endocrine Grand Rounds, Rhode Island Hospital, Brown University, Providence, RI
1991	Visiting Scholar, Vision Science Research Center, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL
	Seminar. Department of Medicine, University of Genova, Italy
	Lecture. European Association for the Study of Diabetes - Study group on Diabetic Eye Disease,
	Hammersmith Hospital, London, England
	Lecture. University of Pennsylvania Symposium on Diabetic Complications, Scheie Eye Institute,
	University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA
1992	Lecture. Seminars on Diabetes, University of Minnesota Diabetes Center, Minneapolis, MN Seminar. Department of Medicine, University of Genova, Italy
1772	Lecture. Symposium on Age-Related Macular Degeneration and Diabetic Retinopathy. Palm Beach, FL
1993	Lecture. The First International Workshop "Diabetic Retinopathy: What Do We Really Know?" The
	Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, PA
	Visiting Professor. Department of Internal Medicine, University of Vienna, Austria
1994	Seminar. Shiga University of Medical Science, Otsu, Japan
	Lecture. Workshop on Diabetic Angiopathy of the European Society for Clinical Investigation, Toledo,
1995	Spain Sominar Canadala San Raffaela I Iniversity of Miles a Males
1995	Seminar. Ospedale San Raffaele University of Milano, Italy Seminar. Department of Medicine, University of Genova, Italy
1997	Lecture. International Diabetes Conference on Molecular and Cell Biology of Type II Diabetes and its
	Complications, Turin, Italy
	Lecture. Retina 2000 Conference of the Schepens International Society, Boston, MA
	Lecture. 16 th International Diabetes Federation Congress, Helsinki, Finland
	Lecture. Oxford Workshop on Diabetic Retinopathy, Oxford, England
1000	Lecture. Symposium on "Acarbose - Challenges and Opportunities," Orlando, FL
1998 1999	Visiting Professor, Center for Clinical Neuroscience and Ophthalmology, Michigan State University
1777	Lecture. Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OHLecture. Department of Nutrition, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA
	Lecture. Meeting on Endothelial Cell Function in Diabetes Mellitus, Wellcome Trust, Genome Campus,

	Hinxton Hall, England
	Lecture. VIII Diabetes Meeting of the Medical Academy of Pistoia; Pistoia, Italy
2000	Lecture. Seminars in Vascular Biology, Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
	Lecture. Department of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
	Lecture. Workshop on Genetics of Diabetic Retinopathy, National Eye Institute, Bethesda, MD
2001	Lecture. University of Padova; Padova, Italy.
	Lecture. Special Interest Group meeting; annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and
•	Ophthalmology; Ft. Lauderdale, FL
	Lecture. Endocrine Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
	Lecture. Mount Sinai Diabetes Meeting, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY
2002	Lecture. Vascular Biology Institute, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, FL
2003	Lecture. DCCT/EDIC 20th Anniversary Symposium; NIH Campus, Bethesda, MD
	Seminar. Pediatric Endocrinology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
	Seminar. Pfizer Central Research, Groton, CT
2004	Lecture. International Polyol Pathway Conference, Kona, Hawaii
	Lecture. Istituto Giannina Gaslini for Pediatric Diabetes, University of Genova; Genova, Italy
2005	Seminar. Bausch & Lomb, Rochester, NY
2006	Seminar. Kresge Eye Institute, Detroit, MI
	Seminar. Department of Ophthalmology, Istituto Scientifico-Ospedale San Raffaele, Milano, Italy
	Lecture, HMS Department of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting, Boston, MA
2007	Invited presentation, NIDDK Workshop "Advances toward measuring diabetic retinopathy and
	neuropathy", Baltimore, MD
	Seminar, Institute for Neurosciences, Comitato Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Pisa, Italy
	Seminar, Departments of Pharmacology and Ophthalmology University of Florida, Gainesville,
2008	Lecture, 22 nd National Meeting of the Italian Society of Diabetes, Torino, Italy
	Lecture, Postgraduate Course of the International School of Pediatric Sciences Istituto Giannina
	Lecture, Postgraduate Course of the International School of Pediatric Sciences Istituto Giannina

2) Original articles

2009

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1. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Schneider V, Karam JH, Rivier J, Guillemin R, Forsham PH. Effects of somatostatin on plasma glucose and glucagon levels in human diabetes mellitus: pathophysiologic and therapeutic implications. N Engl J Med. 1974;291:544-547.

Presentation at XIV Workshop in Pediatric Endocrinology and Metabolism, Pediatric Department

Gaslini, University of Genova, Genova, Italy

Scientific Institute San Raffaele, Milan, Italy

- 2. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Schneider V, Forsham PH. Effect of somatostatin on plasma glucose and insulin responses to glucagon and tolbutamide in man. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1974;39:1057-1060.
- 3. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Schneider V, Kwan CW, Karam JH, Guillemin R, Forsham PH. Inhibition of pancreatic glucagon responses to arginine by somatostatin in normal man and in insulin-dependent diabetics. Diabetes. 1974;23:876-880.
- 4. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Hane S, Gustafson G, Guillemin R, Forsham PH. Evidence for a physiologic role of pancreatic glucagon in human glucose homeostasis: studies with somatostatin. Metabolism. 1975;24:175-182.
- 5. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Karam JH, Schneider V, Forsham PH. Abnormal pancreatic glucagon secretion and postprandial hyperglycemia in diabetes mellitus. JAMA. 1975;234:159-165.
- 6. Gerich JE, Tsalikian E, Lorenzi M, Karam JH, Bier DM. Plasma glucagon and alanine responses to acute insulin deficiency in man. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1975;40:526-529.
- 7. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Bier DM, Schneider V, Tsalikian E, Karam JH, Forsham PH. Prevention of human diabetic ketoacidosis by somatostatin: evidence for an essential role of glucagon. N Engl J Med. 1975;292:985-989.
- 8. Lorenzi M, Gerich JE, Karam JH, Forsham PH. Failure of somatostatin to inhibit tolbutamide-induced insulin secretion in patients with insulinomas: a possible diagnostic tool. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1975;40:1121-1124.
- 9. Tyrrell JB, Lorenzi M, Gerich JE, Forsham PH. Inhibition by somatostatin of ACTH secretion in Nelson's syndrome. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1975;40:1125-1127.
- 10. Mielke CH Jr, Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Tsalikian E, Rodvien R, Forsham PH. The effect of somatostatin on coagulation and platelet function in man. N Engl J Med. 1975;293:480-483.
- 11. Gerich JE, Tsalikian E, Lorenzi M, Schneider V, Bohannon NV, Gustafson G, Karam JH. Normalization of fasting hyperglucagonemia and excessive glucagon responses to intravenous arginine in human diabetes mellitus by prolonged infusion of insulin. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1975;41:1178-1180.
- 12. Gerich JE, Schneider VS, Lorenzi M, Tsalikian E, Karam JH, Bier DM, Forsham PH. Role of glucagon in human diabetic ketoacidosis: studies using somatostatin. Clin Endocrinol. 1976;5(Suppl):299s-305s.

- 13. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Tsalikian E, Karam JH. Studies on the mechanism of epinephrine-induced hyperglycemia in man: evidence for participation of pancreatic glucagon secretion. Diabetes. 1976;25:65-71.
- 14. Karam JH, Rosenthal M, O'Donnell JJ, Tsalikian E, Lorenzi M, Gerich JE, Siperstein MD, Forsham PH. Discordance of diabetic microangiopathy in identical twins. Diabetes. 1976; 25:24-28.
- 15. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Bier DM, Tsalikian E, Schneider V, Karam JH, Forsham PH. Effects of physiologic levels of glucagon and growth hormone on human carbohydrate and lipid metabolism: studies involving administration of exogenous hormone during suppression of endogenous hormone secretion with somatostatin. J Clin Invest. 1976;57:875-884.
- 16. Gerich JE, Langlois M, Noacco C, Lorenzi M, Karam JH, Forsham PH, Gustafson G. Comparison of the suppressive effects of elevated plasma glucose and free fatty acid levels on glucagon secretion in normal and insulin-dependent diabetic subjects: evidence for selective alpha-cell insensitivity to glucose in diabetes mellitus. J Clin Invest. 1976;58:320-325.
- 17. Gerich JE, Lorenzi M, Tsalikian E, Bohannon NV, Schneider V, Karam JH, Forsham PH. Effects of acute insulin withdrawal and administration on plasma glucagon responses to intravenous arginine in insulin-dependent diabetic subjects. Diabetes. 1976;25:955-960.
- 18. Gerich JE, Karam JH, Lorenzi M. Diabetes without glucagon. Lancet. 1976;1:855.
- 19. Deftos LJ, Lorenzi M, Bohannon N, Tsalifian E, Schneider V, Gerich JE. Somatostatin does not suppress plasma parathyroid hormone. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1976;43:205-207.
- 20. Tsalikian E, Dunphy TW, Bohannon NV, Lorenzi M, Gerich JE, Forsham PH, Kane JP, Karam JH. The effect of chronic oral antidiabetic therapy on insulin and glucagon responses to a meal. Diabetes. 1977; 26:314-321.
- 21. Tyrrell JB, Wiener-Kronish J, Lorenzi M, Brooks RM, Forsham PH. Cushings disease: growth hormone response to hypoglycemia after correction of hypercortisolism. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 1977; 44:218-221.
- 22. Bohannon NV, Karam JH, Lorenzi M, Gerich JE, Matin SB, Forsham PH. Plasma glucagon suppression by phenformin in man. Diabetologia. 1977; 13:503-508.
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- 31. Lorenzi M, Karam JH, McIlroy MB, Forsham PH. Increased growth hormone response to dopamine infusion in insulin-dependent diabetic subjects: indication of possible blood-brain barrier abnormality. J Clin Invest. 1980; 65:146-153.
- 32. Schmitt JK, Davis JL, Lorenzi M, Benet LZ, Burns A, Karam JH. Inhibition by indomethacin of the glycemic response to arginine in man. Proc Soc Exp Biol Med. 1980; 163:237-239.
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- Lorenzi M, Goldbaum MH, Spencer EM, Cheney C. Improved diabetic control and retinopathy. N Engl J Med. 1983; 308:1600.
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- 39. Lorenzi M, Cagliero E, Schmidt NJ. Racial differences in incidence of juvenile-onset type 1 diabetes: epidemiologic studies in Southern California. Diabetologia. 1985; 28:734738.
- 40. Lorenzi M, Cagliero E, Toledo S. Glucose toxicity for human endothelial cells in culture: delayed replication, disturbed cell cycle, and accelerated death. Diabetes. 1985; 34:621-627.
- 41. Lorenzi M, Karam JH. Human insulin in the treatment of insulin allergy. West J Med. 1985; 143:387-388.
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- 43. Lorenzi M, Montisano DF, Toledo S, Barrieux A. High glucose induces DNA damage in cultured human endothelial cells. J Clin Invest. 1986; 77:322-325.
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- 45. Cagliero E, Lorenzi M. The corticotropin-releasing factor test in the diagnosis of ectopic ACTH secretion. West J Med. 1987; 146:614-615.
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- 49. Rao LVM, Rapaport S, Lorenzi M. Enhancement by human umbilical vein endothelial cells of factor Xa catalyzed activation of factor VII. Blood. 1988; 71:791-796.
- 50. Diabetes Epidemiology Research International Group. Geographic patterns of childhood insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus. Diabetes. 1988; 37:1113-1119.
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- 56. Cagliero E, Roth T, Roy S, Maiello M, Lorenzi M. Expression of genes related to the extracellular matrix in human endothelial cells: differential modulation by elevated glucose concentrations, phorbol esters and cAMP. J Biol Chem. 1991; 266:14244-14250.
- 57. Maiello M, Boeri D, Podesta F, Cagliero E, Vichi M, Odetti P, Adezati L, Lorenzi M. Increased expression of tissue plasminogen activator and its inhibitor and reduced fibrinolytic potential of human endothelial cells cultured in elevated glucose. Diabetes. 1992; 41:1009-1015.
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- 60. Roy S, Maiello M, Lorenzi M. Increased expression of basement membrane collagen in human diabetic retinopathy. J Clin Invest. 1994; 93:438-442.
- 61. Boeri D, Cagliero E, Podestá F, Lorenzi M. Vascular wall von Willebrand factor in human diabetic retinopathy. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 1994; 35:600-607.
- 62. Zerbini GP, Roth T, Podestá F, Cagliero E, Doria A, Canessa M, Lorenzi M. Activity and expression of the Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger in human endothelial cells cultured in high glucose. Diabetologia. 1995; 38:785-791.
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- Roy S, Cagliero E, Lorenzi M. Fibronectin overexpression in retinal microvessels of patients with diabetes. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 1996; 37:258-266.
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- 75. Boeri D*, Maiello M*, Lorenzi M. Increased prevalence of microthromboses in retinal capillaries of diabetic individuals. (*co-first authors). Diabetes 2001; 50:1432-1439.
- 76. Romeo G*, Liu W-H*, Asnaghi V, Kern TS, Lorenzi M. Activation of nuclear factor-κB induced by diabetes and high glucose regulates a proapoptotic program in retinal pericytes. (*co-first authors). Diabetes 2002; 51:2241-2248.
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3) Proceedings of meetings

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- 19. Lorenzi M. The polyol pathway as a mechanism for diabetic retinopathy: Attractive, elusive, and resilient. Experimental Diabetes Research 2007; vol 2007, Article ID 61038, doi:10.1155/2007/61038.
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5) Abstracts (of work not yet published)

- 1. Dagher Z, Hoehn T, Romeo G, Lorenzi M. The absence of Bax prevents the sight-threatening capillary loss of diabetic retinopathy. Presented at the American Diabetes Association 65th Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, June 10-14, 2005; Diabetes 2005; 54 (Suppl 1):A221.
- 2. Feke GT, Kolodjaschna J, Pitler L, McMeel JW, Lorenzi M. Abnormal retinal vascular reactivity in response to posture change in well-controlled type 1 diabetic patients with no retinopathy. Presented (oral) at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, April 27- May 1, 2008; Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci 2008; 49: E-Abstract 3263.
- 3. Lorenzi M, Feke GT, Berisha F, Kolodjaschna J, Pitler L. Defective retinal vascular reactivity to a change in blood pressure as a risk marker for diabetic retinopathy. Presented (oral) at the 18th Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes Eye Complications Study Group (EASDec), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 30-June 1, 2008; Eur J Ophthalmol 2008; 18:491.

- 4. Tremolada G, Lattanzio R, Pierro L, Maestranzi G, Lorenzi M. Detection of early stages of Diabetic Macular Edema. Presented at the 18th Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes Eye Complications Study Group (EASDec), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 30-June 1, 2008; Eur J Ophthalmol 2008; 18:494.
- 5. Zerbini G, Tremolada G, Maestroni A, Lattanzio R, Gabellini D, Pastore MR, Bonfanti R, Palini A, Rama P, Lorenzi M. Increased clonogenic capacity of endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) in type 1 diabetic patients with early nonproliferative retinopathy. Presented at the EASD Annual Meeting, Vienna, Austria, September 29-October 2, 2009. Diabetologia 2009; 52 (Suppl 1):S438.
- 5. I work at the Schepens Eye Research Institute, Harvard Medical School (20 Staniford St. Boston MA 02114) as Professor of Ophthalmology. I am familiar with diabetic retinopathy and diabetic macular edema and I declare the following opinions and facts as an expert.

The Examiner points out on page 4 and page 10 of the Detailed Action potential inconsistencies with regard to the terminology used. I should like to reassure the Examiner that the focus remains on one basic entity, and that the additional terms were used to add a degree of specification about the basic condition, as follows.

The basic condition being addressed is diabetic macular edema, the swelling of the central portion of the retina called the macula due to the accumulation of fluid.

The qualifier "diffuse" (macular edema) refers to the sites of leakage. Diffuse leakage is widespread throughout the macula and generally originates from multiple vessels. This is opposed to "focal" leakage, which originates from one or a few microaneurysms or dilated capillaries. Diffuse leakage is often nonresponsive to laser therapy, and the current alternative options for treatment of diffuse leakage (intravitreal corticosteroids, intravitreal anti-VEGF agents, or even surgical vitrectomy) are invasive and bring only short-term benefits, accompanied by a multitude of adverse effects (see Mohamed Q et al, JAMA 298: 902-916, 2007). The poor efficacy of treatments targeting vessel permeability is suggesting additional contributions to diffuse DME. Maculopathy indicates the suffering of the neural tissue of the macula with consequent visual impairment, often irreversible. This can occur for multiple causes, for example patients with diabetes may have an ischemic maculopathy, caused by the reduced blood supply to the macula (Byeon SH et al, *Ophthalmology* 2009, 116:1949-1959). In the case of macular edema, maculopathy can occur as a consequence of the swelling, which eventually affects the function of the neural cells of the macula, thus threatening or limiting sight.

Because maculopathy may at some point no longer be reversible, the condition of interest

from the standpoint of interventions is diabetic macular edema. The earliest the intervention, the better the chances of resolution.

The above statement is based on the definition or common understanding of diabetic macular edema within the diabetes and ophthalmology communities in the USA.

- 6. I confirm that I am being compensated by the assignee of the present application for the time spent in making this Declaration.
- 7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and/or imprisonment under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom.

Date: 25 January 2010

Name: Mara Lorenzi

Title: Professor of Ophthalmology Harvard Medical School

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